

Pharmacy Liaison Advisory Committee Minutes Draft

Name of Meeting: Pharmacy Liaison Advisory Committee
Date of Meeting: November 16, 2004
Length of Meeting: 1:00 PM – 2:50 PM
Location of Meeting : DMAS Board Room

DMAS Attendees:

Rachel Cain, Pharmacist
Bryan Tomlinson, Director Health Care Services
Maryanne Paccione, Contractor
Tyrone Wall, Compliance Specialist

Other Attendees:

Mark Russon, Lilly	Becky Snead, VPhA
Ron Hart, Lilly	Jan Burrus, GSK
Bill Hancock, Omnicare, Williamson	
Kemper Hyers, Chain Drug Stores	
Richard Grossman, Vectre Corporation	
Elizabeth Hancock, Epic Pharmacies	

Call to Order

Minutes from the August 17, 2004 meeting have been posted to the web site.

Introduction

Bryan Tomlinson welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that they introduce themselves and state their affiliation.

Healthy Virginians Initiative

The implementation of the Healthy Virginians Initiative was announced during the meeting. There were many questions from attendees concerning this new program. DMAS referred the committee and attendees to www.healthyvirigians/Families/index.cfm for the most recent information provided by Governor Warner. The information below is stated from the website.

Governor Warner stated

"Disadvantaged families in Virginia are not always aware of health issues -- or of the health resources available to them. As a result, they sometimes suffer from poor eating and exercise habits and irregular health care -- and the health problems these can create."

Healthy Virginians will emphasize preventive care and the management of chronic diseases to all families receiving Medicaid in order to improve their overall health and help control costs.

Healthy Virginians is also looking at creative alternatives to help uninsured patients access the healthcare they need. By taking steps to prevent or lessen the effects of health problems, we can reduce the long-term costs of Medicaid.

More information will follow as the Healthy Medicaid Families program is finalized.

MAC Program Updates:

The Medicaid memo addressing the MAC List was mailed on October 15, 2004 and it is still on target for implementation on December 1, 2004. Updates to the MAC list will be made on the first Friday each month and may be found on <http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/pharm-home.htm> (Virginia MAC List)

Final Medicaid Memos on the Preferred Drug List (PDL) this year\2004: LA Narcotics and PDL Phase-I yearly review

The memo for LA Narcotics is in its last week of review and implementation is scheduled for January 17, 2005. The memo for PDL Phase-I yearly review will be mailed by December 1, 2004. The Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (P&T) made the following changes to the drugs in Phase-I: Hyzaar and Cozaar are preferred, Celebrex is preferred, Bextra is non-preferred, and Ciprofloxacin is preferred.

Cost Savings Initiatives / MMA – Becky Snead

Becky Snead from the Virginia Pharmacy Association presented ideas on future cost saving initiatives. Please see DMAS website for Becky's presentation titled Preparing for the Future Ideas for Pharmacist adding quality and controlling expenditures.

Future meeting dates selected for 2005: (3/22/05, 7/12/05, 11/15/05)

The committee requested the following topics for future meetings; data on different disease state management drugs and cost effectiveness of such program. An estimate of the populations that will be included under fee for service in the future as a result of the implementation of Medicare Part D. The results of the opportunity analysis conducted by Comprehensive NeuroScience, Inc. (CNS), and an update on the Healthy Virginians Program.

Adjournment: 2:50 PM